# **Expression of Interest Fact Sheet**

Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program Funding

The purpose of this document is to provide information on time limited grants funding available and how to apply. Funding is through the Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Communities and the Arts (DTATSIPCA), in collaboration with the Queensland Mental Health Commission (QMHC).

## What is the Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program?

The SEWB Program supports initiatives that are co-designed with local leadership to improve mental health and social emotional wellbeing outcomes, reduce harm and increase safety associated with alcohol and other drug (AOD) use, and reduce rates of suicide in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

This work supports priority reforms and targets identified in *the* [*National Agreement on Closing the Gap*](https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/national-agreement-ctg.pdf), and actions under the whole-of-government [*Shifting minds: Queensland Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs and Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan 2023-2028*](https://www.qmhc.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/shifting_minds_2023-2028_accessible_0.pdf)and its two associated sub-plans; [*Every life: The Queensland Suicide Prevention Plan 2019-2029*](https://www.qmhc.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/qmhc_every_life_phase_2_plan.pdf)and [*Achieving balance: The Queensland Alcohol and Other Drugs Plan 2022-2027*](https://6232990.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/6232990/Achieving%20balance%20The%20Queensland%20Drug%20and%20Alcohol%20Plan%202022-2027.pdf)*.*

Proposals must embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership and concepts of social and emotional wellbeing into service design, delivery, and evaluation.

## What funding is available?

## The Queensland Government will provide at least five applicants with up to $400,000 (inclusive of GST) over two years to implement a relevant initiative, with a total funding allocation of $2 million.

Note, an independent evaluation of funded initiatives will be funded separately through the QMHC.

## What will be considered?

A proposal that aligns with the SEWB Program Funding Guidelines and works in partnership with local leadership in First Nations communities to:

* Improve early identification of vulnerability and provide targeted programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific initiatives, including initiatives for young people involved with the youth justice and out-of-home care systems.
* Improve shared understanding of alcohol and other drug related harm and protective factors from the early years through to older people.
* Strengthen alcohol and other drug literacy through sustained and integrated communication campaigns to improve community awareness, attitudes, and behaviours.
* Strengthen social, cultural, educational, and vocational engagement and responses for vulnerable young people.
* Prioritise programs incorporating connection to Country and culture with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and services co-designed in partnership with local communities.
* Develop community-led responses to local issues to reduce suicide.

## What are the eligibility criteria?

To be eligible for SEWB program funding, applicants must comply with the following requirements:

* Be a registered business and have an Australian Business Number;
* Hold public liability insurance to the value of not less than $10 million, or provide evidence of plans to obtain insurance, or partner with an entity that holds insurance to the value of not less than $10 million to cover the proposed proposal;
* Be capable of delivering services in Queensland within stated timeframes;
* Not duplicate existing funding for the same service or period;
* Be an eligible entity type as per the SEWB Funding Criteria.

## What will not be considered?

A proposal that:

* does not demonstrate strong community support;
* does not have the support of local leadership;
* is not financially or operationally feasible to deliver or continue;
* duplicates a service or action that is already funded.

## Eligible communities and organisations

All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland are eligible for SEWB Program funding. Local community-controlled or community-based organisations are strongly encouraged to apply including, but not limited to:

* Local Councils;
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations;
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations;
* First Nations not for profit organisations.

## How proposals will be assessed?

## A subgroup of a Strategic Oversight Group (SOG) comprising departmental and interagency representatives, community leadership and people with lived experience will be responsible for reviewing proposals against the SEWB Program Funding Guidelines and recommending grants funding according to merit.

The SOG assessment subgroup will consider the following key criteria:

* Alignment to the Closing the Gap and commitment to principles of self-determination and local decision-making, demonstrated by evidence of support and ongoing engagement of local leaders in delivery (e.g., through support letters, governance structure, workforce);
* Robust planning, design, and governance mechanisms;
* Organisational capability and capacity to deliver high quality initiatives within agreed timeframes to meet appropriate reporting requirements;
* Evidence based initiatives with measurable outcomes;
* Program sustainability;
* Project leadership by a suitable community-based organisation and implementation by a majority community-based workforce; and
* For fly in-fly out organistions, demonstrated commitment to building local workforce capacity and transitioning to a local service provider in the medium to long term.

## Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview (face-to-face or on-line).

## Evaluation

* All applicants must be willing to participate in a formal evaluation to be coordinated by the QMHC. The purpose of the evaluation is to identify and measure the social and emotional wellbeing outcomes of funded initiatives.

## How can you apply for funding?

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are now open, and proposals should seek to address the specific social and emotional wellbeing needs of community.

For all key resources and to apply, go to <https://www.qld.gov.au/firstnations/grants-funding/local-thriving-communities-grants>

* Audio visual proposals, including pictures, diagrams and presentations, will be accepted if all relevant information (as outlined in the proposal template) is included.
* Incomplete information will impact consideration and assessment.

All EOIs must be submitted by **COB Friday
12 July 2024.**

**Applicants are encouraged to submit EOIs online**, however, the department will also accept applications mailed by the due date to:

Attention: Rhiannon Minniecon

A/Executive Director

Closing the Gap Program Management Wellbeing Programs

Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts

GPO Box 806

BRISBANE QUEENSLAND 4000

## Contact us

For further information, please contact
Ms Anesu Mkushi

Closing the Gap Program Management

(07) 3097 8633

or via email at ltc@dsdsatsip.qld.gov.au and cc Anesu.mkushi@dsdsatsip.qld.gov.au